

Message Text

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R 081827Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

UNCLAS STATE 132102

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EC,TBIO

SUBJECT: SMITHSONIAN: ALGE RESEARCH ON GALAPAGOS

1. THREE MEMBERS OF SMITHSONIAN STAFF PLAN ARRIVE QUITO JUNE 15 AND PROCEED TO GALAPAGOS ISLANDS BY COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT JUNE 17. GROUP INCLUDE: JAMES NORRIS, ASSOCIATE CURATOR AND ALGOLOGIST AND WIFE KATINA BUCHER, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, AND MARSHA COX, COORDINATOR OF SMITHSONIAN RESEARCH PROGRAMS ON GALAPAGOS ISLANDS.

2. NORRIS AND BUCHER WILL COLLECT ALGE SPECIMENS AND CONDUCT RESEARCH UNTIL DEPARTURE JULY 26. COX WILL REVIEW DARWIN STATION RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPANY ALGE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES UNTIL DEPARTURE JULY 1. RESEARCH APPROVED BY PERMIT 000038 ISSUED FEBRUARY 10, 1977 BY ING. TEODORO SUAREZ, DIRECTOR GENERAL, MINISTRY
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OF AGRICULTURE AND CATTLE.

3. AT CONCLUSION OF RESEARCH, NORRIS WISHES TO RETURN PRESERVED ALGE SPECIMENS TO SMITHSONIAN FOR FURTHER STUDY, PACKAGED IN CANISTERS WITH CONTENTS DOUBLE BAGGED, EACH PACKAGE WEIGHING ABOUT 40 POUNDS AND MEASURING 16 INCHES

IN DIAMETER AND 16 INCHES HIGH. THERE WOULD BE 6 SUCH PACKAGES. IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY THAT THESE SPECIMENS COULD BE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES UNDER EMBASSY POUCH FACILITIES? OTHERWISE, SMITHSONIAN WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ADVICE REGARDING OTHER ALTERNATIVES FOR SECURE SHIPMENT, SUCH AS AIR FREIGHT COLLECT FOR CONVERSION BY SMITHSONIAN TO GBL. MRS. COX PLANS TO CALL UPON EMBASSY WHILE IN QUITO TO DISCUSS MATTER.

4. FYI: THE SMITHSONIAN STAFF HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO USE POUCH FACILITIES IN THE PAST.

5. PLEASE SLUG YOUR REPLY FOR SMI/OIP - R.T. CONROY

VANCE

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